CLAIMS

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1. A structure of a prosthesis intended to be implanted in a human or animal passage to provide through-passage along said passage, said structure (2) comprising at least one mesh (4) which, at least in part, is approximately cylindrical and comprises at least one corrugated filament (F) forming approximately annular units (UA) linked together, at least some of the corrugations (ON) of said corrugated filament (F) of two respective adjacent units (UA) being linked together by linking means (5), wherein at least some of said linking means (5) comprise links (6A, 6B, 6C) which are made as a rigid piece and which are provided with at least two loops (B1, B2) joined together and, in the case of each of said links (6A, 6B, 6C), each of the two loops (B1, B2) of said link (6A, 6B, 6C) entraps, with some clearance (J), a respective one of the two corrugations (ON) which are to be linked together.

2. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of said links (6A) comprises at least:

- a straight central portion (7); and
- at each of the ends of said central portion (7), at least one portion (8, 9) in the shape of an arc of a circle intended to form at least part of a loop (B1, B2) of the link (6A).

3. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of said links (6B) comprises at least:

- a central portion comprising two straight partial portions (12, 13) which are not aligned and which are connected together; and
- at the free end of each of said partial portions (12, 13), at least one portion (8, 9) in the shape of an arc of a circle intended to form at least part of one loop of the link (6B).

4. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of said links (6A, 6B) has the overall shape of an S, defined in a single plane.

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5. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in the case of at least one of said links, one of the two loops of said link is defined in a first plane which differs from a second plane in which the other loop of the link is defined.

6. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one (B2) of the loops at least one of said links (6A) is entirely closed.

7. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one (B1) of the loops of at least one of said links (6A) is partially closed so as to entrap the corrugation (ON) that is to be linked.

8. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least some of said corrugations (ON) are zigzags.

9. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein said mesh at least partially comprises hexagonal mesh openings (M2).

10. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of said links (6C) is radio-opaque.

11. The structure as claimed in claim 10 and comprising a number of radio-opaque links (6C) arranged longitudinally with respect to said cylindrical mesh (4).

12. A prosthesis intended to be implanted in a human or animal passage to provide through-passage along said passage, and which comprises at least one structure (2) as specified in claim 1.

13. The prosthesis as claimed in claim 12, and additionally comprising at least one impervious envelope (3) at least partially surrounding said structure (2).

14. The prosthesis as claimed in claim 13, wherein said impervious envelope (3) has a turned-back region at least at one of the ends of said structure (2).

ADD B1

ADD C1

Add D1